

EXAMINERS AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such amendment, it must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Donna Mason (Reg. No. 45,962) on 6/04/2010.

3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claims 3-5 have been replaced with the following amended claim:

3. (Currently Amended) A third information processing apparatus provided on a network and performing rent-out of an address, said third information processing apparatus comprising:

an Internet Protocol (IP) address pool including rent-out virtual IP addresses;

a receiver that receives a virtual IP address rent-out request from a first information processing apparatus, the virtual IP address rent-out request including an original real IP address of a second information processing apparatus;

a storage that stores correspondence information having a correspondence relationship among an original real IP address of said first information processing apparatus, a rent-out virtual IP address, and said original real IP address of said second information processing apparatus included in said virtual IP address rent-out request;

and

a transmitter that transmits said a rent-out virtual IP address to said first information processing apparatus,

wherein said first information processing apparatus sends communication packets to said second information processing apparatus, said communication packets including said rent-out virtual IP address as a source address, and said original real IP address of said second information processing apparatus as a destination address

wherein, in response to an inquiry from said second information processing apparatus, said third information processing apparatus notifies said second information processing apparatus, with encrypted communication, of said original real IP address of said first information processing apparatus.

wherein permission to issue said notification is given when said correspondence information has a correspondence information of said original real IP address of said second information processing apparatus and said original real IP address of said first information processing apparatus, and no permission is given to said notification when said correspondence information does not have a correspondence information of said original real IP address of said information processing apparatus and said original real IP address of said first information processing apparatus.

Claims 4-5 (Cancelled)

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Shawki S Ismail whose telephone number is 571-272-3985. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30 - 5:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Saleh Najjar can be reached on 571-272-4006. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Shawki S Ismail/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2455
June 19, 2010

Application/Control Number: 10/617,689
Art Unit: 2455

Page 5